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Cochin in accordance with the expressed wishes of the municipal council and the District Educational Council concerned respectively. In the City of Madras, the exemption of Muslim girls from the operation of the scheme has been sanctioned as a temporary measure pending the provision of adequate facilities for the education of girls of that community.

Mr V. T. Arasu :—"May I know whether in the City of Madras, Muslim boys are also exempted from the operation of the Compulsory Education Act?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar :—"I am not aware of any such thing."

Mr. V. T. Arasu :—"Are the Government aware that about 5,000 Muslim boys of school-going age are employed in beedi factories?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar :—"Beedi factories do not come under education." (Laughter.)

Mr. V. T. Arasu :—"But those boys are all of the school-going age."

Grants to the Coimbatore Municipality for subsidizing Muslim schools.

* 222-A Q.—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) in how many cases the Government refused to pay half-grant to the Municipality of Coimbatore for maintaining or subsidizing Muslim schools at Coimbatore ; and

(*b*) what is the reason, if any, for such refusal of grant?

A.—(*a*) In one case.

(*b*) Leaving out of account the statutory contribution payable to local bodies under the proviso to section 37 of the Madras Elementary Education Act, 1920, the Government do not generally grant subsidies to local bodies towards the cost of elementary schools established and maintained by them or taken over by them from private managements. Government however subscribe to the Elementary Education Fund which may be used for the upkeep of such schools.

Scholarships to Muslim students in Coimbatore district.

* 222-B Q.—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed : Will the hon the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state what is the number of scholarships awarded to Muslim boys and girls by Government in the district of Coimbatore during the last five years and what is their individual and aggregate value?

A.—A statement showing the particulars is appended.[a]

[a] Printed as Appendix VIII on page 547 infra.